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## COVID-19 Vaccine Information Brief

April 21, 2023

### IMPORTANT/NEW COVID-19 Vaccine Information

- Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Information
- Disposal of Monovalent COVID-19 Vaccines
- COVID-19 Vaccine Training Information
- COVID-19 Vaccine Information Briefs
- COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation and Ordering

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### Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Information

Following [FDA regulatory action](#), CDC has taken steps to simplify COVID-19 vaccine recommendations and allow more flexibility for people at higher risk who want the option to receive an additional COVID-19 vaccine dose.

CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met to discuss these COVID-19 vaccine recommendation changes, and the associated implications and implementation. Although there was no vote at this meeting, ACIP members expressed support for these recommendations.

These changes include:

- CDC's new recommendations allow an additional updated (bivalent) vaccine dose for adults ages 65 years and older and additional doses for people who are immunocompromised. This allows more flexibility for healthcare providers to administer additional doses to immunocompromised patients as needed.
- Monovalent (original) COVID-19 mRNA COVID-19 vaccines will no longer be recommended for use in the United States.
- CDC recommends everyone ages 6 years and older receive an updated (bivalent) mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of whether they previously completed their (monovalent) primary series.
- Individuals ages 6 years and older who have already received an updated mRNA vaccine do not need to take any action unless they are 65 years or older or immunocompromised.

- For young children, multiple doses continue to be recommended and will vary by age, vaccine, and which vaccines were previously received.

Alternatives to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines remain available for people who cannot or will not receive an mRNA vaccine. CDC's recommendations for use of (monovalent) Novavax COVID-19 vaccine was not affected by the changes.

CDC and ACIP will continue to monitor COVID-19 disease levels and vaccine effectiveness in the months ahead and look forward to additional discussion around potential updates this fall.

**In the coming days, CDC will update the following resources:**

- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine - CDC](#)

**Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Resources**

- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines Explained](#)

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## **Disposal of Monovalent COVID-19 Vaccines**

As of April 19, CDC no longer recommends the use of monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. CDC now recommends the use of bivalent vaccine for all recommended mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose(s). Moderna and Pfizer MONOVALENT mRNA COVID-19 vaccines should be disposed of at the provider level. The federal government does not have a method to return wasted or expired COVID-19 vaccines. To minimize the risk of administration error, providers should:

- Remove all monovalent mRNA vaccine from storage units immediately, even if the vaccine is not expired. This includes both EUA and BLA products (Comirnaty and Spikevax).
- Dispose of all monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine vials in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.
- Report all disposed inventory as "Open vial but all doses not administered". Healthcare providers can use the IRIS [Adjusting COVID-19 Vaccine Inventory for Wastage](#) instructions to account for these doses. IRIS staff are available to help manage IRIS inventory by calling 800-374-3958.

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Training Information

- For Pfizer live webinars, visit:
  - <https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates>
- For Moderna education resources, visit:
  - <https://eua.modernatx.com/home>
- For Novavax resources and to register for weekly office hours, visit:
  - [https://novavax.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjwvdOiprjkpHde8PYatLYaP9Z\\_grylefrlo#/registration](https://novavax.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjwvdOiprjkpHde8PYatLYaP9Z_grylefrlo#/registration)

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Information Briefs

COVID-19 Vaccine Information Briefs will continue to be issued after the expiration of the Public Health Emergency on May 11, 2023. As additional information is received regarding the PREP Act and commercialization of COVID-19 vaccines, Information Briefs will be shared with healthcare providers.

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation

The PHE declaration expiration will have no impact on the vaccine ordering, vaccine distribution and vaccine redistribution processes. **The Department will continue to survey Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) monthly to determine each counties desired COVID-19 vaccine allocation.** The Vaccine Redistribution Policy and Process and Vaccine Redistribution Form will continue to be required for each vaccine redistribution. The COVID email will remain available to respond to questions. Questions can be emailed to: [COVID19vaccine@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:COVID19vaccine@idph.iowa.gov).